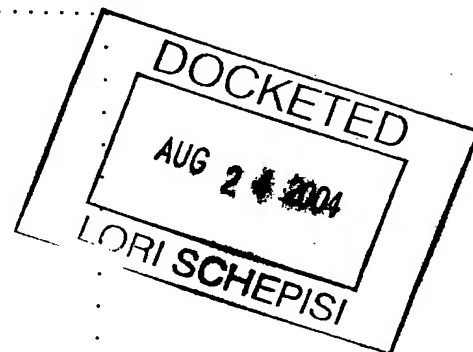


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent

Applicants : Richard J. Budhu, et al.  
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For : AMINOALKYLPHOSPHONATES AND RELATED COMPOUNDS AS EDG RECEPTOR AGONISTS



Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering the U.S. National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 17 of this paper.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE  
DATE OF DEPOSIT 20 August 2004  
EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL 989991473 US  
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS  
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